

Q. S. Selman file



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

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JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Dr. Arnold S. Relman
Editor
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Dear Bud:

As I think I have chatted with you briefly a couple of times, one of my most interesting challenges here at the Rockefeller has been to try to get a better fundamental understanding of clinical research in the current era. I wonder if I could impose on you to cite five or ten publications that, in your own opinion, would be the best examples to help me understand the process. I hope you will keep in mind situations of some scientific and clinical significance that were also dealt with in style. As important as they may be, I do not have in mind epidemiological surveys or clinical trials to evaluate already quasi-established therapies. Of course what I have in mind is to build a stronger conceptual foundation for the policies to govern the future of the Hospital/Clinical Research Center here.

If you need any more information about that it will be readily forthcoming. I also look forward to an opportunity to discuss these matters with you further again when, as I hope, we may see each other closer to hand.

By the way, do you happen to know of any latter day equivalent of Beecher's "Disease and the Advancement of Basic Science", which I have to remind myself was published just about 20 years ago.

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg